



Educational Tours



IN SUPPORT OF



Program Details

Get ready to embark on an adventure through Ecuador's most beautiful cultural and natural landscapes. You'll get an authentic glimpse into the neighborhoods of Otavalo, visit the famed Mercados de los Ponchos and even learn how the local crafts are made with a visit to a local family's home. You'll also get to spend some time at the Bellavista Cloud Forest Reserve in the Amazon Basin, where you'll be build and repair school structures, witness the unique ecology of the rainforest and even learn how to cook your own traditional Ecuadorian cuisine.

WHAT'S INCLUDED



Round-trip airfare on major international airlines



Yunguilla conservation; Mercado de los Ponchos and local family visit



Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily with select meals being a variety of local cuisine



2 night stay in Quito; 2 night stay in Octavalo; 3 night stay in Minga Lodge; 1 night stay in Banos



Full-time Me to We Field Director



Volunteer, leadership, action planning and social issue activities



Internal transportation on coach buses or other vehicles



12 service hours to count towards academic credit and presidential award

DAY 1 | ARRIVE IN QUITO

DAY 2 | YUNGUILLA SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Orchid research; Jam factory; Cheese factory
- Explore reforestation areas

DAY 3 | OTAVALO

- Poncho workshop
- Visit Mercado de los Ponchos and learn about the Quechua culture

DAYS 4-7 | FREE THE CHILDREN COMMUNITY: MINGA LODGE

- Community orientation
- Participate in Building Site Safety 101
- Evening discussion on the history of Free the Children's community development module, Adopt a Village
- Leadership and social justice modules led by expert Me to We Field Directors.

Daily activities can include

- School building and restoration
- Tree planting and community garden work
- Spanish lessons
- Jungle hike
- Visiting a local cacao farmers market
- Local cooking classes
- Visiting a local shaman

DAY 8 | BANOS JUNGLE HIKE

DAY 9 | DEPART FOR HOME



An immersive tour with meaningful service projects

Our Service Learning Tours are designed to instill the humanitarian values that encourage a lifetime of service. By making a positive impact in local communities, students gain the cultural empathy, global awareness and sense of leadership necessary to become true global citizens. In the end, they return home with a newfound understanding of collaboration and the motivation to make a difference in their own communities.

In an effort to focus our service efforts where they are needed most, EF has partnered with Me to We in support of their award-winning charity, Free the Children. By working within the framework of their sustainable Adopt a Village model, students are able to work hand in hand with local communities to break the cycle of poverty and create a lasting change—both at home and abroad.

The Adopt a Village Model

The Five Pillars of Sustainable Development

EDUCATION

Working to keep educational facilities and values alive is the single most effective tool any community has to breaking the cycle of poverty.

HEALTH

Our programs focus on health education and preventative care, allowing children to remain healthy and able to go to school.

ALTERNATIVE INCOME

Ensuring long-term solutions to economic challenges is the best way to generate sustainable income for generations to come.

FOOD SECURITY

Securing an adequate amount of healthy, nutritious food is at the heart of every community's livelihood and prosperity.

CLEAN WATER + SANITATION

Providing clean water sources and sanitation facilities is the most direct way to supply this basic human right.

Your partners in global education

EF EDUCATIONAL TOURS

For nearly 50 years, EF has worked with educators across the world to help millions of students become global citizens by breaking down barriers of language, culture and geography. With more than 460 schools and offices in over 50 countries, our staff can respond immediately and in person wherever you are, 24 hours a day. We are also an accredited educational institution, offering students the option to earn high school and college credit.

ME TO WE

Me to We is an innovative social enterprise that provides people with better choices for a better world. They measure the bottom line—not by dollars earned, but by the number of lives changed and the positive social and environmental impact made. Half of Me to We's net profit is donated to the Free The Children charity, and the remainder is reinvested to further the social mission of their enterprise.

For more information or to enroll, call 800-637-8222 or email servicelearning@ef.com